

SANTA ANA COLLEGE

on thursDAY

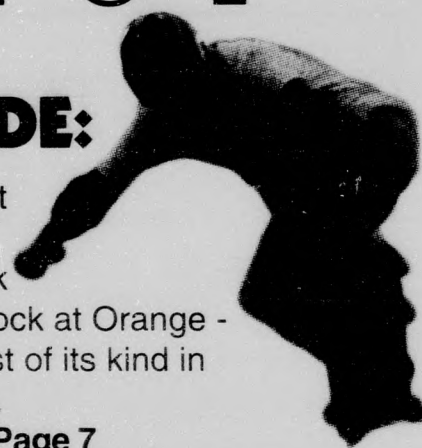
Santa Ana College presents a day-long workshop on careers for women in math, science and engineering in U-201A from 10 a.m. to 1p.m.

el Don

INSIDE:

Check out the Vans Skatepark at The Block at Orange - the largest of its kind in the world.

Feature, Page 7



Volume 76, Issue 2

17th at Bristol Street, Santa Ana, California 92706

Monday, March 8, 1999

Intersession proves popular despite flaws

QUICK CREDITS: Over worked students and weary teachers find crash courses beneficial.

By David Gekchyan
el Don Staff Writer

Resigning themselves to the situation at hand, students exchanged glances of exhaustion and terror across the heavy oak table. Training was over - the final hour upon them.

Adriana honed the tip of her pencil to a sharp point and took one more look at those who had become her second family.

The others hunkered back down to

work, only to have their focus shattered by the shrill voice erupting from the P.A. system:

"The library will close in five minutes. Please gather your personal belongings."

Accustomed to the drill, they packed their gear and headed out, frustrated again by the lack of services available during intersession.

"I thought intersession was great, but I had planned on being able to use the library more," said Adriana Sanchez, reuniting with her classmates outside the library. "Especially before final exams. I barely had time to sharpen my pencil before they kicked me out."

Santa Ana College's first attempt at the

program was considered a success by most participants.

Despite complaints of an overwhelming workload and the inadequacy of student services, 69 percent of participants polled by the school said they would enroll again next year.

Business major Leticia Tellez, had such a favorable response that she enrolled in a six-week course during the regular spring semester.

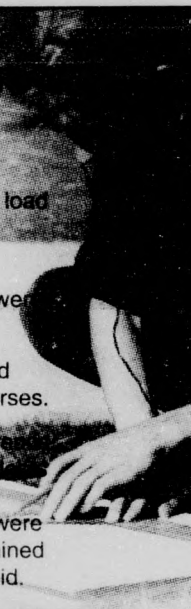
"I did so well in my speech class, that I decided to take a quick-study science class. I think this option should be open for all classes - not just a select few."

Instructors were similarly encouraged.

Please see STUDY, Page 3

INSIDE INTERSESSION

- 3,269 students enrolled.
- Common complaints included: an intense work load and lack of available students services.
- 16 weeks of instruction were condensed into 25 days.
- Most participants reacted favorably to the quick courses.
- Instructors noted a difference between intersession students and those enrolled during regular semesters. They were more focused and determined to pass courses, some said.



Board selects Latina educator as SAC president

LEADER: Dr. Rita Cepeda, a 17-year veteran of the community college system is the second female to hold presidency.

By Theresa Salinas
el Don Editor in Chief

After a two-year search that sometimes proved contentious and at other times frustrating, the Santa Ana College presidential selection committee can finally rest.

Dr. Rita Cepeda a 17-year veteran of the California Community College Chancellor's office has been selected as the second woman and first Latina president of the 84-year-old community college.

Cepeda, a native of Nicaragua, emigrated to the U.S. with her family at the age of 11. In June of 1998, she took a leave of absence from her duties as Vice Chancellor for Educational Services and Economic Development at the Chancellor's office, to serve as Interim President at Mission College in Santa Clara.

Prior to her leave, Cepeda served as the community college system's chief instructional officer, where she led the educational policy for more than 1.5 million students.

After receiving her bachelor's in communications disorders and a master's in clinical psychology, Cepeda was awarded the National Institute of Education's Doctoral Fellowship for Women and Minorities. She completed her doctoral work at the University of Southern California.

Cepeda is expected to assume her post in July, when Interim President John Nixon will step down and resume his post as Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Members of the Rancho Santiago Community College District and Cepeda, were not available for comment at press time.



Dr. Rita Cepeda



CONFLICT: Tensions rise over issues of nationalism and first amendment rights.

By J.P. Chabot
el Don Staff Writer

Truong Van Tran tried to return to his video shop on Monday, March 1, only to be pulled back by police.

Kicking at police who claimed to be protecting him from a dangerous crowd, Tran insisted that he go back into his store, in which is displayed the now-infamous portrait of Ho Chi Minh.

Protest leaders promised on March 3 to stop blocking the Little Saigon video store so they could focus on an upcoming anti-communism rally in Houston.

The conflict started between Tran and several others over Tran's refusal to remove a portrait of the communist revolutionary, Ho Chi Minh.

Protestors assembled outside the shop, quickly gaining support in the Vietnamese community.

Often blocking traffic and even reaching such high numbers as 15,000, the protestors clearly made their presence felt for over a month.

The incident sparked intense feelings in areas including students at Santa Ana College.

"I know that most people in the Vietnamese community hope that with Russia going back to being capitalist, Vietnam might follow," a student named "Vo" said. "But most of the people here immigrated because they had a terrible fear of Communism."

"It's not good for this man," says Tuyet Nguyen, a Computer Lab employee of SAC of Tran's insistence on fulfilling his First Amendment rights. "Legally, he is...just an American. But I know from personal experience that there are people in the Vietnamese

Please see PROTEST, Page 4

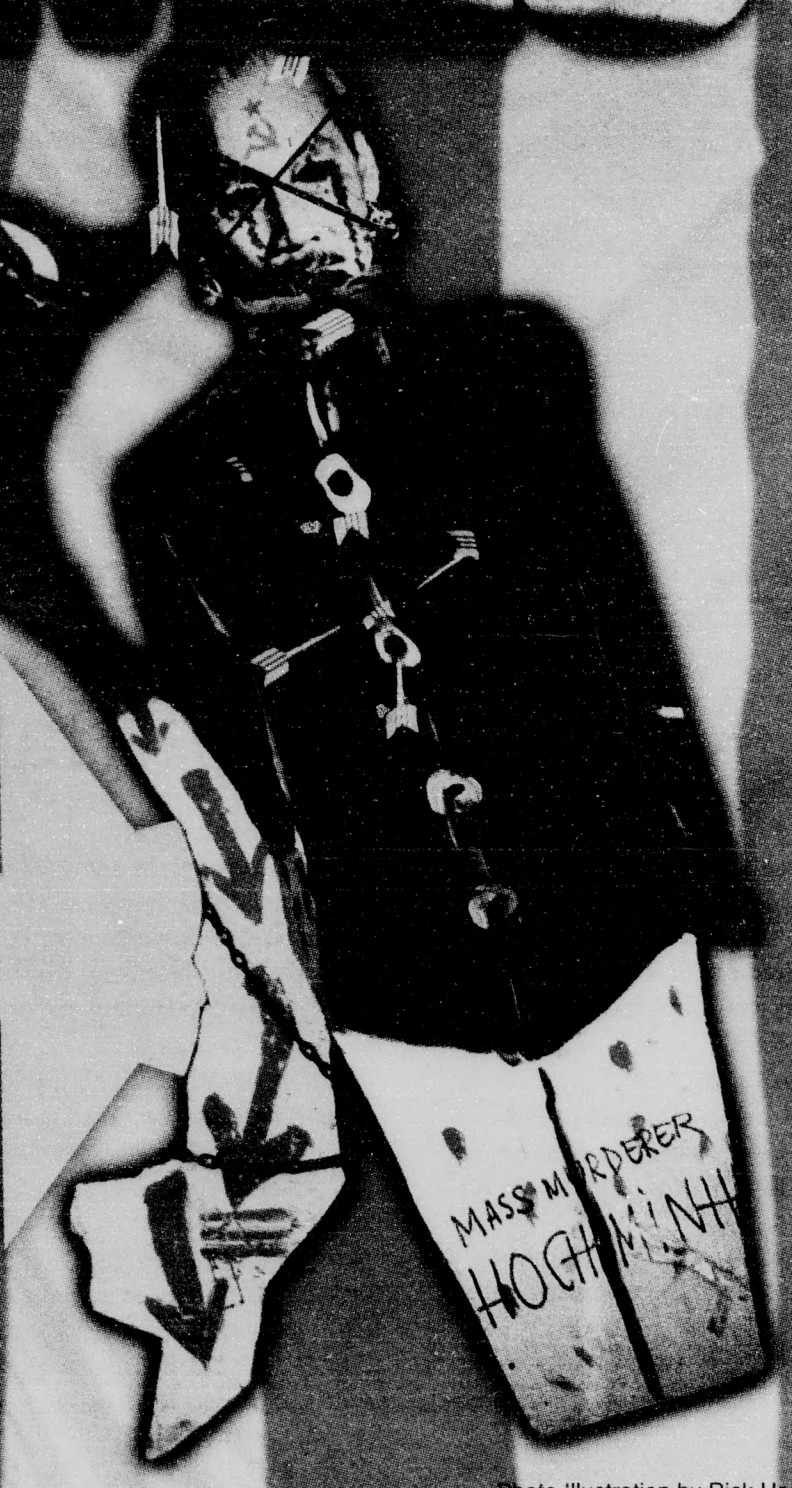


Photo Illustration by Rick Ho

PROFILE

COMING TO AMERICA

TRAVELS:
International student's journey has just begun.

By Dawnielle Peck
el Don Feature Editor

Most students brave Orange County's construction plagued freeways every morning to get to school, only to battle for a parking space and then run to their class in an attempt to be on time.

As admirable as that is, it pales in comparison to what Lee-Andra Peel did over a year ago to get to Santa Ana College. When she was 16-years-old, Peel left her home in Zimbabwe, Africa and moved to California.

Before she even opens her mouth, Peel gives a sense that she is a unique and intriguing person.

A silver hoop in her left nostril stands out sharply against her soft, chocolate colored skin.

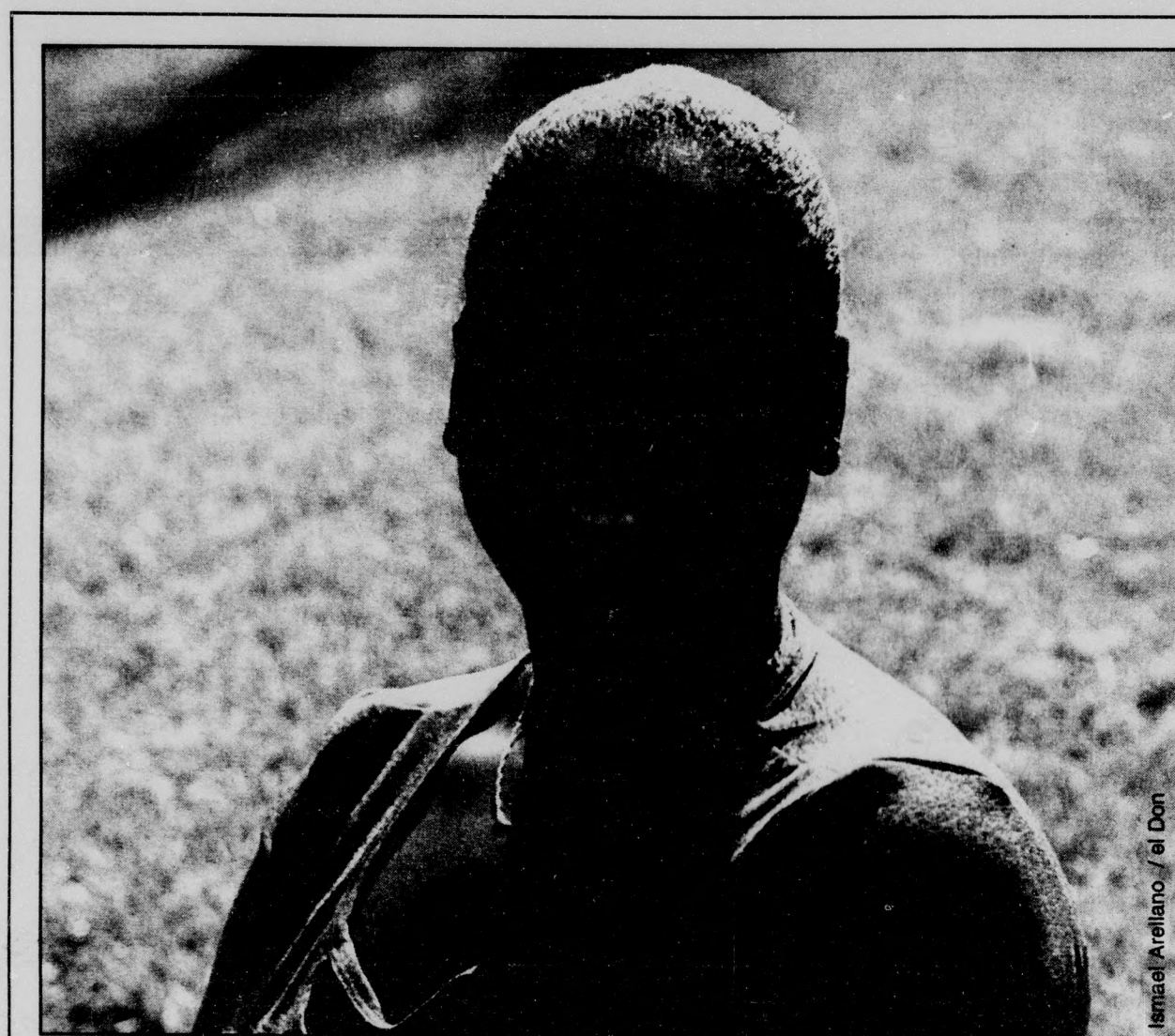
When she does speak, to explain how she came such a long distance, her entrancing British accent is revealed.

About three years ago, she graduated from high school early when she was 15, then took a secretarial course for one year, after which she came to America.

"I wanted to study and I didn't want to study at home. I didn't have to come (to Santa Ana College)," Peel said.

One reason why she decided to attend SAC was because it's a family tradition of sorts - both of her older sisters were previous students. The second reason was a little harder to explain.

She had also visited local



Lee-Andra Peel came from Zimbabwe over a year ago, and is now president of the International Students Association. One of her responsibilities is to promote awareness for the 29 countries represented on campus.



VITAL STATS

- Moved to California from Harare, Zimbabwe, Africa in July 1997 and lives in Lake Forest with her older sister.

- Loves to dance and her favorite club is Metro in Riverside.

- Has never seen snow in person and would like to "go somewhere where you look around and all you see is white."

- Considers the craziest thing she's ever done was pierce her nose. Besides that, she calls herself a "safe person."

college campuses while she weighed her options and preferred SAC.

"The campus seemed to welcome me. That may sound silly but it just seemed to say 'you belong here,'" she added. "I think a big part of it was the different cultures and different races I saw around me."

Although Peel left her parents, older brother and extended family back in Africa, it wasn't too difficult for her to adjust to American culture.

She lived in Harare, the capital city of Zimbabwe, which, she said, is not much different from California cities.

"(America is) very similar to

Zimbabwe," Peel said with a smile, which is quite contagious.

"It's a little more fast paced than home," she said of the differences between Zimbabwe to her home in Lake Forest. "It was hard to adjust to the great distance between places. To come (to school) from home takes half an hour. Basically everything else is the same."

Though the differences she noticed were few and far between, Peel misses her friends. "I really found it terrible to leave them behind," she said.

"The first semester I was here I didn't make many friends," Peel reflected.

"But when I started working for

the international office, I made a lot of new friends, in fact, all of them are international. I hardly have any American friends."

Peel volunteers 10 hours a week at the international office, works in admissions 19 hours a week, is president of the International Students Association and currently takes 12 units.

She also goes dancing most weekends and tries to workout at the gym at least three days a week. Despite a long list of commitments and responsibilities, she doesn't consider herself to be extremely disciplined. "Sometimes I am," she said humbly.

Since last fall when she was elected as president of ISA, Peel

has worked to promote cultural awareness.

"We try to show (students) how we live in our separate countries," she said of the goal of her club.

"We realize that when students come here from different places, they find it difficult to make friends."

One way that ISA attempts to help in this area is by hosting activities at least once a month so new students don't feel so alone.

Some upcoming activities include trips to Universal Studios and Medieval Times, as well as an excursion to San

Please see PEEL, Page 4

STUDENT LIFE

Program brings international flavor to campus

ENROLLMENT: Recruitment proves successful in attracting students from overseas.

By Theresa M. Hudzinski
el Don Staff Writer

Diversity is something that Santa Ana College welcomes. And through the International Students Association, the medley of students who walk through the halls continues to grow.

"Currently there are about 500 students in the International Student Association college credit program with representation from about 40 countries," coordinator Donna Tolley said.

"Also there about 36 students who meet all requirements for the college

credit program except English. So they are dedicated to an intensive language program where they take 24 hours of English a week," Tolley said.

One wouldn't think that the Rancho Santiago Community College District would be known across the globe.

But with a campaign of print ads in magazines and promotional videos placed at U.S. Embassies and high schools, RSCCD is transported to the world.

With further recruitment through profiles and fairs, the college and its benefits are further promoted.

But the greatest form of advertisement comes from the people who are touched by ISA itself.

"We offer a lot more personal attention

than a major university.

The reasons are the same for international students as they would be for those who live down the street. So word of mouth is our best asset, friend to friend, student to student and relative to relative," Tolley said.

Walking on to campus isn't that easy. There is an initial application to fill out, with evidence of a high school education, proof of financial support, tuition and medical records.

Once all this takes place, the ISA forwards the proper material to the Immigration Naturalization Service.

When the student has met all the qualifications and arrives, they usually live with host families.

After they start at SAC, The Interna-

tional Students Club takes over to help participants adjust to the new cultures around them.

"We sponsor a lot of activities such as social hours, dances, a soccer team and a band. There are also outings to the beach, Universal Studios and bowling, adviser Ralph Kuechle said.

The idea is since the students come from all over the world, with different cultures, it is hard to get established.

So we help. This is not only an education but an experience that they will never forget for the rest of their lives," he said.

Kuechle speaks from personal knowledge, he emigrated from Germany about three years ago. Last year he was

Please see FOREIGN, Page 4

Study: four-week courses draw positive response

continued from page 1

often citing that students enrolled in intersession classes were more serious about learning than those enrolled during a full-length semester.

"I went into it thinking it was going to be too tremendous a pace for students, but many of us were surprised, and agreed that it worked really well," said Victoria Stephenson, who taught basic English writing during the four week period.

Gerald Ghelfi, who taught two history classes, found his students to be much more focused and dedicated.

"The students seemed more mature and their grades were much

higher. It was taught at a greater pace, but they accepted that."

Reasons for taking classes varied, but most popular was the opportunity to gain momentum and get ahead.

Nearly all surveyed students took courses required for their major.

Tellez, one class shy of completing the transfer agreement with Cal State Fullerton, saw intersession as an opportunity to assure her acceptance by the university.

"I took the class once before, but dropped it. This way, I was done with the course faster. It didn't drag on and on."

Enrique Godinez, a 22-year-old human services major, also saw

the opportunity to earn quick credits and grabbed it.

"I failed Math 080 the first time and needed to take it over. This way, I completed the class quickly and was able to continue with the math sequence in the regular semester."

Others sought classes for personal interest and a desire to keep busy during the two month break between semesters.

"I enjoyed teaching those four weeks more than I have the last few years because the students were so responsive and attentive," said Gary Teigen, who instructed two political science classes.

While Teigen's curriculum went largely unchanged, he noticed more students utilizing tutoring,

and a rise of about one letter grade in his class-average.

The road to units was not without its bumps and potholes. Students voiced problems with the school's automated telephone registration system, and concerns over limited access to campus facilities.

Library, cafeteria, admissions, computer lab, study center, and bookstore hours were cut drastically, exacerbating pressure on already stressed pupils.

"They were tremendous... we had to have a quiz and write every day. Students had six hours of homework, and so did I," said Stephenson about preparing English assignments.

The first week of class proved particularly difficult when the

bookstore lacked texts necessary for certain courses.

Other responses from the district survey included scheduling problems. In one instance, two classes were scheduled in the same classroom. Gym students also missed a fourth of the session when the gym was in use by a club one night, a basketball game another, and the Martin Luther King holiday yet another.

"Logistically, the admissions department worked very hard and I admire them for it," said Teigen.

As an initial attempt, intersession 1999 proved successful. Its popularity ensures more access to campus services and more detail preparation for the year 2000.

Protest:

continued from page 1

community that have strong Communist ties and wish to return to a state of Communism. The fear and anger we have for them is too strong."

Some people think that Tran deliberately intended to start a protest to get attention. "If somebody put up a portrait of Hitler in an Israeli community, they would get the same reaction," said Demothy Pham, a SAC student. "He has to be a little crazy to do something like that, but he's not. He's very smart. He knew that there would be a reaction like this."

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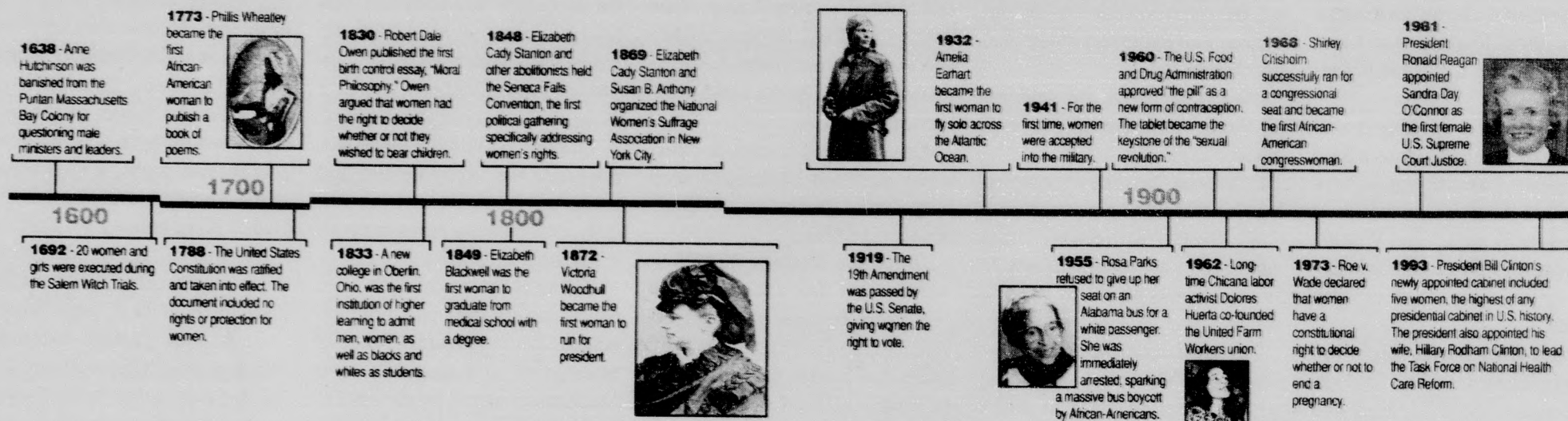
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Spotlight on women's history

The following time line is a list of events and people that shaped life for women across the nation.



By Theresa Salinas
el Don Editor-in-Chief

It all started with the signing of the constitution. While America's founding fathers guaranteed personal liberties for all men - they included no such privileges for female counterparts.

Since then, women in American history have largely been ignored.

Although the recent accomplishments of women have largely surpassed those of any previous century, "her story" must be told, along with "his."

Across the country, Women's History Month will be celebrated in March to bring to light the many contributions women have made to society.

Campus organizations are also sponsoring events through out the month.

Scheduled activities include lectures, workshops and films aimed at promoting awareness about international women's issues.

Sponsored by Women's Programs and Services and the Cross Cultural Center, all events start at noon in U-201A.

On Monday, a lecture will be held describing the Asian-American experience in the United States, and how it relates to cultural female roles.

"Women need role models of various cultures," said Teresa Mercado-Cota, a Santa Ana College staff member. "We need to observe, listen and learn from them all."

On Wednesday, Mercado-Cota will host her own lecture titled "Opportunities and Challenges for Latinas." Focusing on the Latina identity, she will take an in-depth look at the hurdles young women must face on the road to success.

The following week, on March 16, SAC history teacher Angelina Veyna will lead a workshop sponsored by the Latina Center, titled "Rediscovering Our Past."

Directed toward the Chicana/Latina life-style, the workshop will highlight historical contributions made by Latinas.

Mercado-Cota feels by hosting similar seminars and workshops, women who have become successful can share their knowledge and experiences with others.

"Those of us that have been fortunate

enough to make it, have an obligation to lend a helping hand to those who are still struggling," she said.

A series of events on March 18 highlights careers for women in science, engineering and math.

From 10 to 11 a.m. rocket scientist Claudia Ferguson will speak, followed by a panel presentation on careers from 11 a.m. to noon.

Bringing the event to a close will be a film on Willa Brown and African-American aviation, from noon to 1 p.m.

Also scheduled are violence prevention and relationship workshops.

For dates, please contact the New Horizons office at 564-6150.

Peel:

continued from page 2

Diego for spring break.

Another of ISA's goals is to help international students solve their problems with the school and to help them financially. The club recently started a small scholarship program.

Though Peel is on campus usually from 9 a.m. to

10 p.m., she doesn't have any regrets. "I like being busy," she said.

She misses the countryside in Zimbabwe but doesn't intend to move back anytime soon.

"I wouldn't want to go and live there again, as much as I love it - maybe to visit," she admitted.

Peel doesn't have to worry about returning to Africa for another four or five years though.

She has no intention of slowing down and hopes to transfer to California State University at Long Beach to major in international business.

Meanwhile, as an international student, she is allowed to stay in America as long as she is studying.

She is required to enroll in 12 units per semester, excluding summer and intersession, so she's working hard year round.

Foreign: global recruiting on the rise

continued from page 2

president of the ISC but stepped down this past Fall to take on the role as adviser.

The goal of the program is not to assimilate the students into this culture, but to make them feel a part of the community.

Also with sponsoring events like the Interna-

tional Festival, the ISA and ISC try to bring the culture of the foreign students to the student body of SAC.

Giving back to the community is also a goal of the students.

In June after finals, the ISC is planning a benefit concert with the proceeds going to Zaire.

The club's ultimate goal

is to raise enough money to help build a school there.

"We not only want to contribute here, but in all our global cities," Kuechle said.

Together, ISA and ISC not only bring cultural diversity to SAC, but they strive to make it a little easier for those who are so far from home.

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Bite of the block

With a plethora of dining choices available at the Block in Orange, we check out two of its most popular restaurants — Left at Albuquerque and Cafe Tu Tu Tango



Guests can watch their food being prepared right before their eyes at the Southwestern themed restaurant Left at Albuquerque. Richard Harty / el Don

Veer left of Left At Albuquerque

By Sandra Robbie
el Don Staff Writer

Left of Albuquerque New Mexican Grill left me feeling like I missed the turn I was supposed to take. I believe there has to be a wonderful meal in there somewhere, I just didn't have my compass pointed at it.

Inside, dusty, rusty colors of a desert highway cling to angular walls cut with the feel of an artful, post-modern adobe. The sparse, pop music ambience feels like an August nights drive to Phoenix.

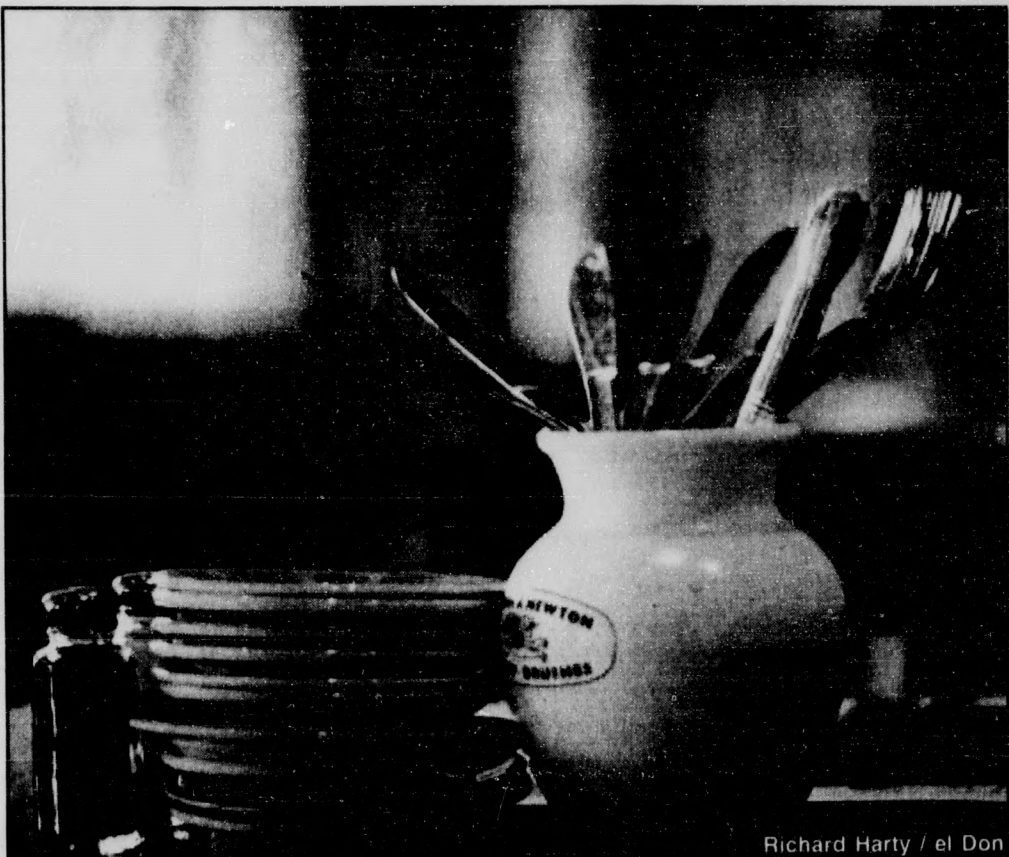
The bar boasts 100 brands of tequila where customers can order up a \$20 shooter of Herradura Seleccion Suprema (aged in French oak and steamed from their own blue agave cache). For those with tighter pocketbooks, the \$2.50 house margarita is a deal every day.

It was difficult to select from so many peppery, zesty

meals since I favor less spicy food, but I ended up choosing the Chicken Calabacitas. The smoked scent of the dish overtook my senses even before the first bite. Although it was well presented with colorful green rice and pinto enteros, the meal was over-spiced for my palate. The peppers tasted like the chicken which tasted like squash so I wrapped everything in a flour tortilla which helped mute the powerful flavor. The meal seemed fine after that.

For dessert, there was only one offering -- a strawberry shortcake with creme brulee. Only one desert is offered per night. Again, the presentation was lovely: a delicately fanned trio of pound cake wedges topped by a warm strawberry compote and a thick, gently whipped cream topping. After such a spicy meal, I would have preferred a cool finish to the warm berries that left me less than satisfied.

I think next time I'll ask for a less spicy meal, or if it was possible, to tone down whatever I order.



Richard Harty / el Don

It's a perfect place for two to tango

By Joanna Barlomowicz
el Don Staff Writer

California's newest addition to the already super saturated restaurant industry, *Cafe Tu Tu Tango*, turns out to be a fun and unique eatery.

Upon entering the double glass doors, I was immediately drawn to the interior decor. Yellow walls with an array of art covering almost all open spaces gave the restaurant the feel of an artist's studio. Charming large paint jars filled with utensils and random paint brushes sat on every table. I was seated in a prompt

manner and was relieved to find that my waiter was not only friendly (not in that fake I-want-a-big-tip sort of way) but knowledgeable as well.

My excitement grew when I discovered that besides a meal, there was also free live entertainment. African drummers complete with a traditional dancer burst onto the scene and gave a small show for patrons. *Tu Tu* has 16 different acts on hand, so every night is a mixed bag.

The menu was even more original than the decor (if that's possible.) After realizing the entire menu

was made up of appetizers, I resisted the urge to order one of everything and settled on the Thai spring rolls with pork and shrimp, blackened turkey skewers and shrimp potstickers.

Because full dinners are not served, the prices stay in the \$4 to \$6 range for each appetizer. Getting together a big group of friends is recommended for those wishing to have more food to choose from.

For those who want more than just a meal for their money or who are looking for a good first date, *Tu Tu Tango* is the place to be.

Do Not

Part of the van Gogh collection makes a rare stop at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art

By
Alesa
Kerr

Pass GOGH



The only thing bigger than the 70 painting van Gogh exhibit currently at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art are the crowds hurrying to see the collection.

With many of the tickets already sold out for the show which runs through May 16, *van Gogh's Van Gogh: Masterpieces from the van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam* truly is something to see, even if it means braving the lines.

The paintings, which span the life of the artist from *Potato Eaters* (1885) to *Wheatfield with the Crows* (1890, the year of his death), gives visitors a rare chance to see the pieces which rarely leave the van Gogh museum in the Netherlands.

For an additional \$5, patrons can purchase a headset that is a wonderful guide to the exhibit. The taped tour allows you to stop under selected paintings to hear a description as well as music composed from van Gogh's day and letters he wrote to his brother and sister. The taped tour gives you something to do while you're waiting to view his works.

The gift shop offers everything from van Gogh umbrellas, t-shirts, books, computer screen savers, buttons, and reproductions. The best bet for those strapped for cash but wishing to take something home are postcard reproductions for 50 cents.

Many weekends are already sold out, so have a variety of dates in mind before you call Ticket Master to order. Your van Gogh ticket will admit you free into the rest of LACMA (except for Wednesdays when the museum is closed.)

Before you pack up the kids and drive to Los Angeles, you should be warned that you'll need tickets and reservations for a specific time. Weekday prices are: adults, \$17.50; senior citizens 62 and over, \$10; children 6-17, \$5 all the time; and children under 5 are free. On weekends: adults, \$20; senior citizens \$15.

vincent: a timeline

March 30, 1853-
The eldest son of Theodorus van Gogh, Vincent Willem van Gogh is born.

1872-
Vincent writes his first letter to his brother Theo. He will write approximately 700 to him during his life.

1880-
Enrolls at the Brussels Academy of Art.



1888-
Cuts off his ear during a mental breakdown which was most likely an epileptic seizure.

1889-
Commits himself to the Saint Remy asylum.

1890-
Sells his first picture.

1890-
Vincent shoots himself in the chest and dies two days later.



1892-
First exhibition of his work after his death is held.

1893-
van Gogh's letters published.

1935-
The first van Gogh exhibition in the states is held at the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

1973-
van Gogh museum opens in Amsterdam.



Skate OR Die

Skaters find refuge in 46,000 square feet of concrete and wood at the Vans Skate Park.

By Michael Ziobrowski
el Don Copy Editor

It's the biggest in the world, and by the looks of its popularity, it might open the way for others just like it.

The Vans Skate Park, opened back on Nov. 20, is located at the Block in Orange, and is a large indoor structure filled with three empty pools, one vertical ramp and three street courses; one indoors, one outdoors, and a beginners course.

"The skating and setup is nice," said Marcus Bandy, a 25-year-old skater from Texas. "It's cool to be able to have a place to come and skate at night and not worry about being hassled by the cops."

Skating times are split up into two-hour sessions, with a total of eight sessions throughout the day.

Riders pay a fee for the ride time and can rent safety equipment if they don't have their own.

Generally skate times cost \$7 for members and \$14 for nonmembers. An annual membership for \$50 allows patrons to skate on any given day.

About 800 enthusiasts pack the complex daily, but weekends and school holidays show the most business.

"We sell out the majority of our sessions on the weekend filling the 175 skater limit," said assistant manager Keith Furrow. "The weekdays are a bit slower so the limit is 150 riders per session."

With the limit being 175 riders per two-hour session, accidents are minimal.

"Like in any sport, there's bound to be a few injuries," said assistant manager Darren Mcannon. "But I've only seen a few sprained wrists."

Riders are required to wear knee and elbow pads and helmets, while pros are only required to wear a helmet.

Tiny tots and pros fill the 46,000 square foot warehouse to practice, perform tricks and entertain onlookers who struggle in for a glimpse of daredevil stunts such as hard flips, one slides, 360s and Kay grinds.

"The largest group would have to be kids between nine and 14," said Mcannon. "The youngest I've seen is a four-year-old who comes in regularly with his parents."

"Almost every pro has been here, minus a couple," Mcannon added. "There are a lot of them who come almost everyday." Professional skaters Tony Hawk, Omar Hassan,

Lincoln Upton and Jason Chalk are regulars at the park.

"Skateboarders dominate the facility over in-line skaters but they all get along very well," said Mcannon. "There's been no fights yet."

The park is not limited to just skateboarders and in-line skaters. Tuesday's and Thursday's are open to bike riders from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. with a limit of 90 riders per session.

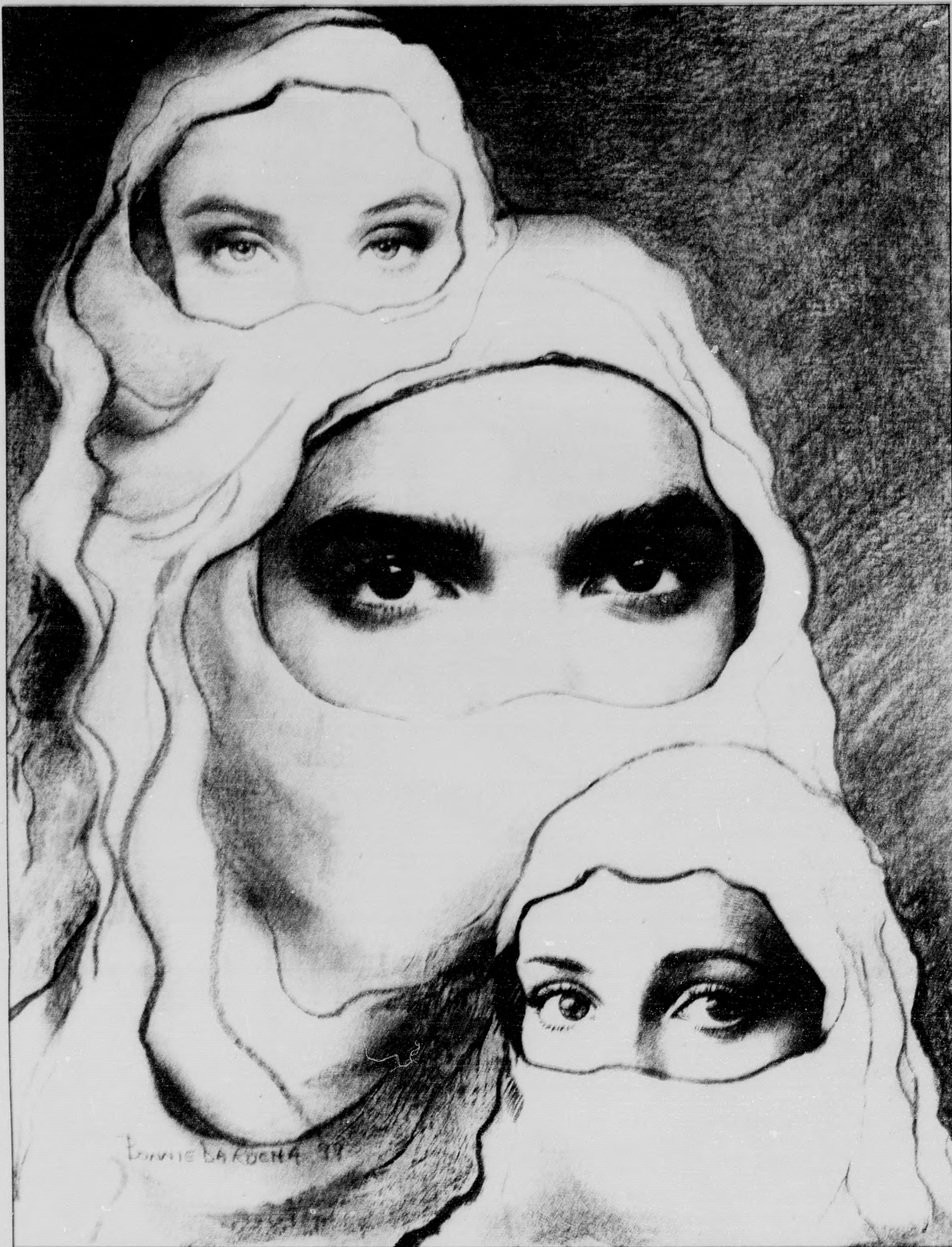
Although the park has proved its popularity, according to some patrons, there is room for improvement.

"I think they should have spent more time on the street course and used the amount of space they have available in a better way," said Bandy. "The way it's run can be a bit lame, too." The time constraint of a two-hour session often discourages riders.

"And the whole mall environment is whack," Bandy added. The park has a 6,000 square foot mezzanine area for people to come in and watch. To some this is a turn off and a distraction. It's not like skating on the streets and goofing off with friends. Behavior is required.

The complex also has a retail store and pro-skate shop. Shoes, shirts and a variety of other Vans apparel are available along with boards, wheels and helmets. The park is open from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily.

Popularity and success of the park has encouraged Vans and the Mills Organization to sign letters with intent of building four more large parks in Ontario, Calif.; Toronto, Canada; Orlando, Fla.; and Prince William, Va.



Since a puritanical Islamic militia took rule in Afghanistan, women there have virtually no rights.

By Theresa M. Hudzinski
el Don Staff Writer

Close your eyes. Picture a day when you wake up and are no longer allowed to attend work or school, receive health care, leave your house without a chaperone or show your bare face in public.

Imagine you're considered as nothing more than a household slave and a means of procreation by your government. And in violation of the above, the punishments include beatings, rape and even death.

Open your eyes. This is not a nightmare, but a harsh reality of daily life for women in Afghanistan.

In 1992, after 20 years of civil war and unrest, the country slid into the hands of Islamic funda-

mentalists.

Three years later, the Taliban, a political group of religious students, came to power. Their intent is to establish a strict Islamic system of government. Basic fundamental rights such as association, freedom of expression and employment are considered un-Islamic for women.

Many Afghan officials say they do not want to hold women back, but to protect them from predations of men and the degradations of Western influence.

These are just few reasons why women are not allowed to laugh in public, or must wear the *burqa*, a shapeless sack that covers them from head to toe. Without such precautions, the Taliban believe

women could corrupt men.

Yet even with women following such rules, sexual crimes against women are still high.

In 1995, Amnesty International published "Women in Afghanistan: A Human Rights Catastrophe." The 16-page detailed report revealed testimonies by women about deliberate killings, rapes and other forms of torture to those who try to promote women's rights.

But nothing has changed. In December, the Taliban ordered that female passengers must hide behind curtains on public transportation, and buses carrying only women should be heavily shrouded.

The spirit of the Afghan women

appears to be bleak. In a report published in *The Washington Post* by the Physicians for Human Rights, at least 97 percent of female Afghans are suffering from major depression and 86 percent have symptoms of anxiety.

Malnutrition is rampant, hospitals refuse to admit women without veils and women cannot be treated without a female doctor present.

While many countries want to help, it is almost useless because the Taliban are adamant that God is on their side.

On the dawn of the last International Women's Day of this century, the struggle in Afghanistan proves the fight for equal and human rights is far from over.

Suffering in Silence



Among the many rights denied to Afghan women, is the right to be human. They cannot:

- Show their faces in public to male strangers.
- Wear bright colored clothing.
- Travel in private vehicles with male passengers.
- Wear shoes that have heels which make noises - the noises might corrupt males.
- Raise their voices in public nor laugh - it could corrupt men.
- Wear make up.
- They must wear shapeless sacks called *burqas*.
- If women disobey, they may be beaten, killed or raped.

VIEWS PAGE

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Our
VIEWSFlynt's got
the ticket

We would like to officially nominate Larry Flynt for president.

One of the points hammered into our heads by congress, the senate, the Starr Commission and anybody else who felt the need to climb on the morality soap-box throughout the presidential scandal was that it's not about the sex, it's about the lying.

Even though we all know that's as big of a lie as Clinton's finger-wagging denial of having sexual relations with "that woman," let's go with this theory for a moment.

If honesty is so valued in this day and age, Flynt makes more sense as a candidate than the parade of shallow, stuffed-shirt asses and elephants that are thrust upon us come election day.

Flynt makes no qualms about what he does -- he sells sex.

Almost everyone is making money from sex, but few will admit it. Flynt not only profits from porn, but he protects our First Amendment rights at the same time. But hey - he's honest about it.

Other politicians can't even walk and chew gum simultaneously.

One only has to look as far as the election of former TV wrestler Jesse Ventura to know that amazing things happen when you scrape off the layers of sediment that political consultants pile on - and uncover the real person.

Although it would be hard at first, telling the truth could set this country free from the tabloid fodder that currently has its chokehold around our media crazed necks.

We chastise politicians for being slick and for being professional liars, but how many times have we not told the full truth?

Whether it was a friend asking if they are overweight or a grand jury asking about your sex life, Americans like to live in a world free from reality and honesty.

Instead of choosing a leader that deals with sexuality out in the open, we would rather hear about the president's juicy affairs on television talk shows and read about it at supermarket check out lanes.

Everyone says honesty is the best policy, but how many of us really believe in it?

A little honesty goes a long way - it's time to test the theory, America.

Mailbox Policy

The el Don encourages expression of all views. Letters should be brief and to the point. All letters should include student ID number and may be edited for length and clarity. Letters to el Don may be delivered to room C-201, or mailed to SAC el Don, Mailbox, 17th at Bristol streets, Santa Ana, CA 92706. Include a phone number where you may be reached. Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the editorial board and do not necessarily reflect the views of SAC. Opinions with a byline are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of el Don or Santa Ana College. El Don reserves the right to refuse advertising and does not necessarily subscribe to the views of the advertisers. For el Don advertising rates and information, contact Debi Carr at (714)564-5617. FAX 564-0821



Photo Illustration by Marvin Lee

My
VIEWMs. Lewinsky says a
mouthful to viewers

By Alesa Kerr
el Don Views Editor

The biggest, most anticipated interview of the year came off more like a two hour General Foods International Coffee moment as Barbara Walters was finally allowed to prod White house intern turned vixen -- Monica S. Lewinsky.

Although Babs asked all the questions that viewers themselves would have probably posed, she allowed herself to get caught in Monica's overly detailed stories as if they were discussing some "hottie" that Monica was seriously crushing on instead of our president. You could almost substitute Monica for Sandy from the movie *Grease* with Walters leaning in and singing, "Tell me more! Tell me more!"

What did Americans gain from all this besides disgusting, intimate details that we should neither know nor care about? If this "lady's night out" was supposed to garner sympathy for the intern, it fell severely short.

The truth was plain enough to see -- Monica, although poised and polished in her delivery, is a willful homewrecker with little sense of remorse.

If the interview proved anything it's that this girl has little to no shame. Hearing her describe the president as "a good kisser" and as her "sexual soul mate" was like listening to the details of your parents sex life. On the issue of phone sex, she squeals that "it's fun!" When questioned on why she kept the infamous Gap blue dress, she laughs and responds that "it was funny to me" and when Walters asks if she tried to have intercourse with Clinton, Monica emphatically nods yes and says, "uh huh!"

The whole scandal was reduced to a twenty-somethings idea of a good, exciting time that she proudly blabbed to friends about. I had to check the program listing to make sure I was indeed watching a serious interview and not

some version of *Love Connection*.

Most have already read or heard about the oral sex and the cigar incident, but Monica's attitude towards it is what's shocking. She was full of shining white toothy smiles and prone to fits of giggles that you would expect from a junior high-schooler, not someone who has been interrogated by a grand jury.

I don't know why I expected true remorse. Has anyone come out of the Clinton spin cycle remotely resembling a real person? I've felt deeper emotions watching an infomercial for starving children with Sally Struthers whining at me.

And in the grand tradition of hair splitting ("that depends on what the definition of *is* is") Monica classified oral sex as, "messing around...fooling around." Did anybody else but me catch the last half of the phrase "oral sex?"

Maybe with her new millions of dollars amassed the bouncy haired Beverly Hills resident can buy a clue. A hint that you're being treated as a sex object is when you tell the man you're going down on that you love him and he responds, -- insert your own southern accent here-- "that means a lot to me." For future reference Mon, the rough translation of that statement equals, "that's nice, but back on your knees please sweetie."

If you think my venom is restricted purely for Monica, think again. Ken Starr, Linda Tripp, Paula Jones, the media who made "Monica walks to her car!" their top story for the evening, and all the hypocritical congressman who voted to impeach when we damn well know that their own lives are probably more twisted and sick than a bad cable access porn movie are pathetic.

The last year in a brief summary? Lewinsky, Kaczynski, and Lipinski. God bless America.



Finding meaning in an OLD JALOPY

By Theresa Salinas
el Don Editor-in-Chief

The first time I saw it - I shuddered. Its luminous tail fins, scaly gray texture and huge underbelly reminded me of a crazed sea monster.

Slowly making its way through the asphalt current in front of my high school, I averted my eyes as it headed towards me.

Little did I know, that I would spend more hours with the beast in the years to come as a driver, instead of a passenger.

The "monster" I describe, is a 1985 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme that I inherited. Lucky me.

After six months of driving "the family car," I have finally come to the realization that I can't kill it. Ever.

No matter how hard I wish, a brand new Honda Accord will not appear in its place. No matter how hard I beg, my parents won't burst with generosity and run to the nearest Lexus dealer with checkbook in hand.

In the meantime, I have bonded with car, albeit reluctantly. It runs great, and despite its many shortcomings, it gets me where I need to go.

It's ironic - but the monster that I despised during my teen years, has become tolerable now that I'm in my twenties. I'm actually starting to like it.

Perhaps it's the history connected to my car that helps me oversee its weaknesses.

It belonged to my grandfather - before he passed away - and he was proud of it. It was his dream car - "a good 'ol American model" complete with shiny chrome wheels, silver metallic paint and loaded with gadgets. He bought it right off the showroom floor, and it was an instant novelty in my family.

I remember being in the Oldsmobile with my 18-year-old aunt, during her first post-driver's-license "spin" around the block. Blasting a Depeche Mode tape, we rounded corners virtually on two wheels, while my grandmother clung fearfully to her seatbelt.

Sometime in the late '80s, the same aunt sideswiped a parked big rig - tearing most of the passenger door off.

But my fondest memories of the car include my grandfather.

During my junior year of high school, he picked me up almost daily. Amid long lines of fancy BMW's, Cadillacs and convertibles, he squeezed the Olds in and patiently awaited my arrival.

Although the wheels had long since tarnished, the gadgets were outdated and the paint rusted to a silvery-red, he was still proud of his luxury car as it gracefully passed its 10-year-mark.

Sometimes when I'm alone in the car, I can feel his presence. I envision him waiting for me, with his fishermans hat pulled over his eyes, quietly dozing.

As a teenager, I was mortified at the thought of

anyone seeing me in a Titanic-sized tin heap. I didn't want to see it, or be seen in it. Now that it's my Titanic-sized heap, however, I can handle what others say.

So what if the paint's a little rusted - I'll get it repainted someday. Who cares if the radio doesn't work? What about the air conditioner that only blows hot air? That's why windows were invented. Just roll them down a little further for a nice breeze.

And even if the door comes ajar when I make a left hand turn, and the windshield leaks when it rains - it still runs.

Call it scrap metal. Call it a "hooptie," "jalopy" or "bomb." Call it what you want - but that hunk-of-junk is mine - and I love it.

"As a teenager, I was mortified at the thought of anyone seeing me in a Titanic-sized tin heap. I didn't want to see it or be seen in it."



Trip to Canyons a success for Lady Dons



Ismael Arellano / el Don

Freshman Lisa Arcangel takes the ball but is defended by an opposing player last Tuesday night in the Dons 66-55 victory over College of the Canyons.

WOMENS HOOPS: Santa Ana continues its greatest season ever with a second playoff triumph.

By Randy Scott
el Don Sports Editor

Stephanie Patten scored 20 points to lead the Lady Dons to a 66-55 victory over College of the Canyons (20-10) in the second round of the Southern California women's basketball regional playoffs last Tuesday night.

Santa Ana College (22-9) advances to the third round of the playoffs for the first time in school history. With a win over Ventura College (29-3) in round three, the Lady Dons would advance to the State finals this weekend.

Patten, a freshman from El Dorado

High School, has blossomed into the team's leading scorer in the playoffs.

"Stephanie really came through for us tonight," said head coach Jack Single. "She kept us in this one."

Injuries have held Santa Ana back this season. The team suited up only eight players for the game. Basketball rosters can have up to 12 players. Canyons had 11 players. Early on, SAC didn't look undermanned.

The Dons took advantage of several mistakes by the Cougars in the first half to open up a nine-point lead. Canyons went on a 13-5 run and trailed 28-27 at the half.

Both teams kept the score close in the second half with physical defense.

"In all my years of coaching, this was Please see VICTORY, Page 12



The Facts

Who:
Lady Dons hope to compete in State finals

When:
Thursday-Saturday

Where:
Bren Events Center, University of California at Irvine

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Bouncing her way to the record books

The Dons leader has had a lot to celebrate, and wants more

By Randy Scott
el Don Sports Editor

Rochelle Anthony knows a thing or two about winning. The Lady Dons leader on the Basketball court comes from a tradition of success, and has brought that with her to college.

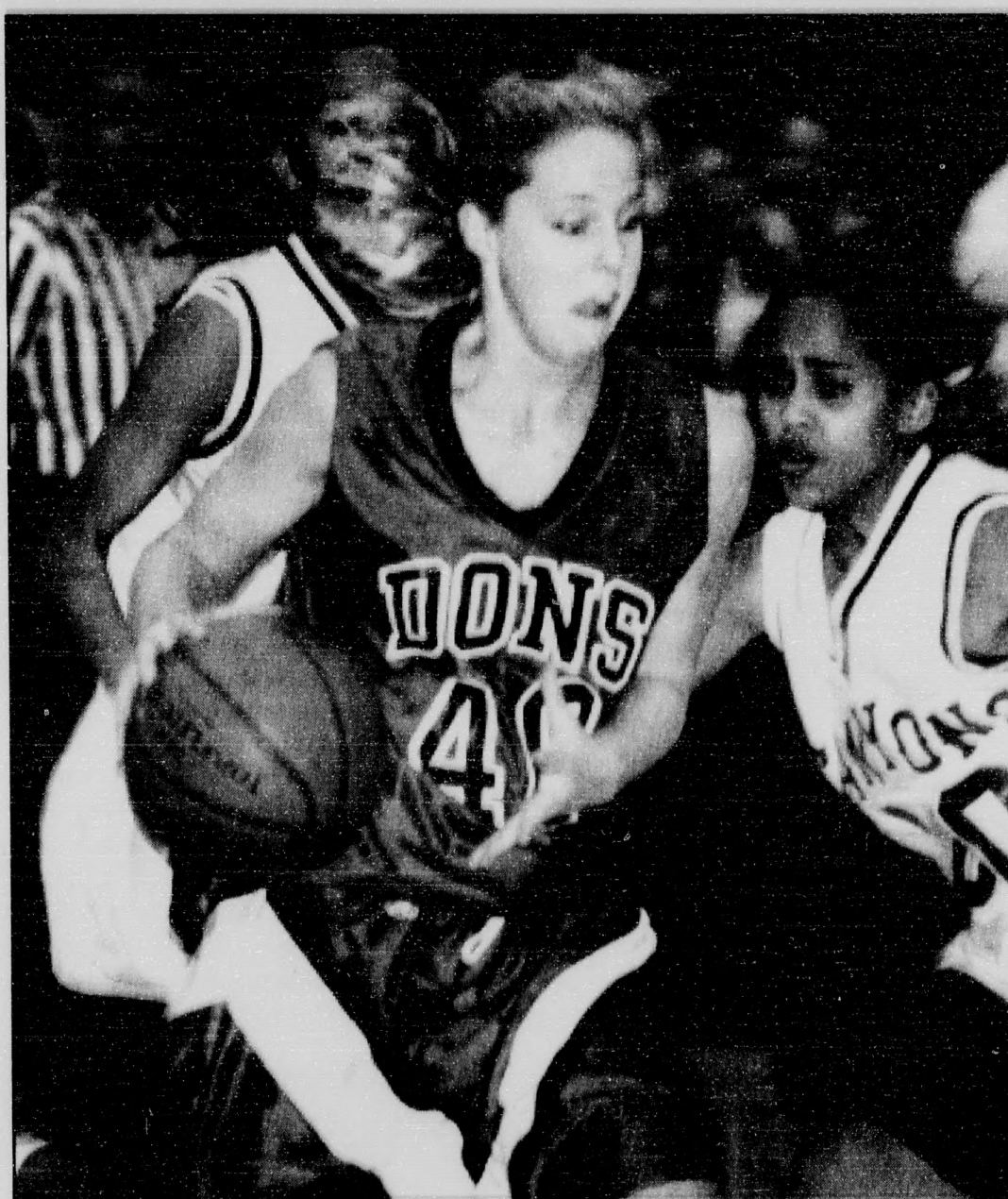
Anthony attended Brea-Olinda High School, known for having a strong women's hoops program. State tournaments are nothing new for her as she played in two of them in high school. But, she has never won a state title yet.

With Santa Ana College making it to the third round of the playoffs, Anthony hopes to finally win the big game.

"We won C.I.F. during my junior and senior years, but lost in the (state) finals," she said. "This time, I want to go all the way."

She has done her part to make that happen this season. The sophomore is the team's leading scorer. In fact, earlier this season Anthony broke the SAC career and single season scoring records. She also holds the record for three-point field goal percentage. Her talents don't stop with shooting.

Anthony holds Brea-Olinda's all-time rebounding record. The power forward is an all around player. She can put the ball in the basket, or pass it to a teammate. She plays defense with as much tenac-



Ismael Arellano / el Don

Sophomore Rochelle Anthony drives the Dons toward the State Championship tournament, setting records along the way.

ity as she does offense, sometimes even more.

"If I'm not shooting well, I know I have to step it up on defense," Anthony said. "You need both to win."

The future looks promising for this hard worker. She wants to become a women's basketball coach in the future.

She also hopes to go into the field of physical therapy after earning a four-year degree. Where she wants to get that degree is another question.

"I'm not sure where I want to go next. I'm keeping my options open," she said. "I'm thinking about Arizona State."

Wherever she lands, Anthony is sure to be an asset for that school, and will give them a chance to do what she loves the most on the court - win.

And maybe she can get the state title that eluded her in high school. A first for her, and a first for Santa Ana.

Loads of action and empty seats

OPINION: Am I the only one on campus who goes to games?

By Randy Scott
el Don Sports Editor

It has been a year of success for the Dons athletic department. Men's soccer won the state title. Women's basketball continues to have their best season ever. Unfortunately, very few people have been there to see it.

Attendance at Santa Ana College's sporting events has not been good, at least not at the ones that I have been to. At a recent women's hoops game, there were fewer than 50 people in the stands, and half of the crowd was with the visiting team. The rest of the crowd was mostly friends and family of Don players.

I have to confess that I never went to an athletic event at SAC during my first two years as a student here. I was too busy, or I wasn't aware anything was going on, or I just didn't care. These are probably the reasons many on this campus do not attend.

School spirit tends to be low at a community college. It's a transitional period between high school and a major university. It's designed to be a quick stop on the road of life. And that stop doesn't include sporting events.

But for the athletes this is more than a whistle stop. Many of the players are playing for the last time. Or they're playing because they love the game. There are no strikes or lockouts, no enormous checks and better yet, no big egos. It's sports the way it used to be - fun.

While the Dons may be amateurs, they are talented athletes. Most teams are evenly balanced which makes games exciting. Usually more exciting than most of the overpaid and overrated professionals.

The next time you're walking around campus between classes, or looking for a place to wind down after a long day, try the baseball diamond, the soccer field, or the basketball court.

Chances are you will find some inexpensive entertainment. Or, at the very least, you can show the athletes you appreciate the job they're doing out there. I know they'll be glad you came out.

An unexpected drive in the fast Lane

BASEBALL: The Dons center fielder is turning heads.

By Alex Arreola
el Don Staff Writer

A tall, lanky figure trots into the dugout to get ready for his turn at the plate.

He takes a few practice swings before approaching the plate, then steps into the batter's box and dares the pitcher to put the ball in his zone.

The pitcher makes his move and he promptly smacks the ball well into the tennis courts in deep right-center field. The professional scouts in the stands look at each other in awe.

As he crosses the plate, a big, flamboyant smile flashes across his face.

He has been hitting home

"Right now everything looks like a watermelon to me at the plate and I just try to hit every pitch...It doesn't do you any good if you are tense and worry about your batting average because you will not perform to your expectations..."

-Richard Lane

Starting outfielder for Dons baseball team

runs like there is no tomorrow and he is showing no signs of fading.

Measuring over 6 feet tall and weighing in at 190 pounds, Richard Lane doesn't intimidate very many pitchers.

To tell you the truth, he does not even look like a baseball player. But recently, he has been turning the heads of a lot of coaches, professional scouts and pitchers alike.

Lane wields excellent reflexes, quick wrists, and is a steady outfielder. So

far this season he has been on a tear, has 11 home runs and has a staggering .535 batting average in 15 games.

No one expected such a production from this Tustin High School product.

"Richard has always had the natural swing and the tools to become a good player, he has worked hard and it is paying off," said former Tustin teammate and current Don, Elmer Roldan.

Lane worked hard in the

off-season to get to this point.

He has visited the IntenseCity facility in Irvine, where he does vigorous exercises to increase his athletic performance.

Lane's swing is extremely quick and pitchers in the Orange Empire Conference better beware.

"Richard has the ability to hit everything hard to all sides of the field, he has excellent balance and is a very selective hitter," said former high school coach Greg Jennings.

Lane enjoys himself out on the field carries a very relaxed approach to every game and at bat.

"Right now everything looks like a watermelon to me at the plate and I just try to hit every pitch I see with authority," he said.

"It doesn't do you any good if you are tense and worry about your batting average because you will not perform to your expectations," Lane added.

He is a true freshman; one that has already signed a letter of intent with Pepperdine University and is slated to go in the fourth round of the amateur draft with the Montreal Expos.

As conference play rolls around, Lane will continue to be relaxed and continue to turn pitchers' mistakes into souvenirs for a long time to come.



The Facts

Who:

The Dons continue conference play this week on the road against Saddleback and Cypress

When:

Tuesday, March 9, 2 p.m.;
Thursday, March 11, 2 p.m.

Where:

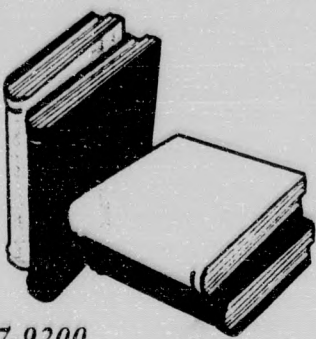
Tuesday @ Saddleback College;
Thursday @ Cypress College

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**UNTREATED
DEPRESSION**

#1 Cause of Suicide

Public Service message from SA VETS Suicide Awareness Voices of Education <http://www.save.org>

Victory:

continued from page 11

one of the roughest games I've ever seen," said Single.

With 15 minutes left to play, the Lady Dons broke the game open and took a 7-point lead. A three-pointer from the Cougars cut the lead to four. But SAC went on a 5-0 run to go up 42-33 with just under 12 minutes to play.

Dons center Casey Remmers fouled out, leaving seven players against a full Cougars team. They needed a boost, and they got it from their point guard. Freshman Mary Pedro came off the bench to score 13 points, one of her best performances of the season.

"Mary was our spark tonight. When we were down, she picked us back up," Single said.

Pedro, one of four Lady Dons from Hawaii, picked up the team in the second half with several clutch baskets.

The Cougars wouldn't go down easy. Santa Ana had several opportunities to extend their lead but couldn't get it past nine.

"We could have made things much easier on ourselves," Single said. "We missed too many easy shots and it kept the Cougars in the game"

As Patten and team leader Rochelle Anthony went cold from the floor, Pedro and Lisa Arcangel took control of the offense.

"We didn't play our best tonight, but a win is a win," said Anthony, who scored 15 points and played 39 minutes. "Offensively I was having an off night, so I had to step it up on the defense," she said.

With four minutes left, the Dons still had a 10-point lead. A brawl almost ensued after Dons guard Karen Herco was taken down hard by a frustrated Cougar. Herco wasn't hurt, but Canyons scored five straight points to get back in the game.

"I give all the credit to Canyons,"



Ismael Arellano / el Don

Freshman Mary Pedro drives to the hoop for two of her 13 points.

Single said, "They played a great ballgame tonight," Single said.

But they wouldn't get any closer as Santa Ana finally put the game away. It wasn't the Dons best performance, but it was a great victory. They will need to take it up a notch to upset Ventura College and keep this season alive.

IN MEN'S BASKETBALL NEWS

The Dons hoops season came to an end after an 86-84 loss to Alan Hancock College in the first round of the Southern California playoffs on February 26.

Chris Mattice led the way with 44 points, third highest total in school history. The sophomore, in his final game with Santa Ana, was named player of the week by both the Orange County Register and Los Angeles Times last week. Mattice finishes the season averaging 22.2 points per game.